

CARAVEL TRANSLATES 100% OF THE RPG SYSTEMS
RUNNING ON OS/400 TO JAVA

BASE 100 NAILS IT DOWN FOR COMMERCIALWARE

CommercialWare is the world's leading provider of software solutions for multi-channel retailers. CommercialWare solutions enable retailers to interact, transact with and service their customers across multiple channels, and it powers retail commerce for more than 90 leading retail brands, including Abercrombie & Fitch, Staples, Target, Casual Corner, Brooks Brothers, Starbucks, EBWorld.com, J.Jill, Ritz Camera and Patagonia.



CommercialWare solutions enable retailers to build a “customer-centric” commerce infrastructure, driving growth and high levels of customer satisfaction. A customer-centric infrastructure provides retailers with the ability to interact and transact with the customers across multiple channels, and collaborate with the suppliers and distribution partners in real-time. CommercialWare retail.commerce™ is a comprehensive solution for multi-channel commerce—from web storefronts, to order management, fulfillment, and customer service. CommercialWare collaborate.commerce™ is a robust solution for hybrid supply chains—connecting the retail enterprise to the extended supply chain and fulfillment networks.

CONVERTING TO JAVA

Basically, says Jane Cannon, vice president of Research and Development for CommercialWare, her company is in charge of “a rather large application” that generates RPG code on the backend. It is the company's flagship product and handles “anything that happens beyond the ‘buy’ button.” Recently, says Cannon, they wanted to look at converting the application to Java.

“It is critical to bring our application into the Java world for e-business and to deploy our application on multiple platforms,” she says. “We have a blue-chip customer base relying on us.”

**On our first deployment,
it worked.**

**And we didn't have to
put in long hours,
weekends and nights**

ENTER BASE 100

BASE 100 provides a complete range of services for translating systems developed under proprietary languages, into Java. BASE 100' Caravel translates 100 percent of RPG systems running on OS/400 to Java, while keeping exactly the same functionality as the original programs. The effectiveness of the information system, due to years of use and accumulated experience, is thus replicated on the most advanced technological platform, a result that is easy to maintain and develop utilizing modern tools. For RPG based systems, Caravel offers an immediate and sure solution with an open technological outlook.

Base100 representative says he remembers Cannon was exploring the possibilities of translating to the open language Java as well as writing a new application from scratch, but at the end opted for converting. Everyone knows the limitations of RPG and the advantages of Java, says Base100 representative. "Companies are looking to introduce graphic interfaces that benefit from all the ergonomics and control advantages offered by Java and HTML, having the freedom to run their application under a client server architecture or on the internet with an n-layer architecture."

BASE 100' CARAVEL – A HANDS-DOWN WINNER

Then they had to decide which converting vendor to choose. "There are only a handful of converting products available and some of them are not fully operational yet. We know that our guarantee of 100 percent of code conversion maintaining the original functionality goes unrivaled," says Base100 representative. "CommercialWare contacted all of them —and in the end, Jane decided to go ahead with Caravel. We have the most technically advanced solution available in the world market today."

CommercialWare decided to run a pilot project on the conversion so that they could prove the functionality. They

ran the conversion using Transtools' Caravel on 10 percent of the application. "We actually deployed it in a WebSphere, DB2, pSeries environment to do our initial test. It only took about 45 days," says Cannon. They did some initial test of the converted code, deployed it —and it was good.

"To be perfectly honest," says Cannon, "part of the drama for us was: we didn't expect success; we didn't expect it would run. The surprise was: it actually worked. And we didn't have to put in long hours, weekends and nights."

CUSTOMER SERVICE WITH A SMILE

Cannon says one of the best things about working with BASE 100, is working with BASE 100. "They've been very responsive. We look at product, but we also look at the vendor. That's as important to us as selecting the right product."

BASE100

BASE 100, S.A. – Santa María Magdalena, 10-12 – 28016 Madrid (Spain) – www.base100.com